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enlisted in a regiment, which was then quartered in Londonderry. I had just got released from drill, when I one day happened to stroll a little out of town, and while I was ruminating on the felicity of my condition, I was overtaken with a shower, and as soldiers, sir, sometimes fear a shower worse than the shot of the enemy, I did then (what I have never since done, while fighting the battles of my country) fairly took to my heels. I ran into a little cottage where I chanced to see a young woman spinning beside her mother. I am no scholar, sir, and therefore cannot give a very glowing description of her charms; suffice it to say, she had charms sufficient to captivate my heart. I begged leave to visit her, and after some months' courtship, she, with the consent of her mother, made me the happiest of men; three weeks, three little weeks! after the great, the important ceremony had taken place, and oh! dreadful vicissitude! our regiment was ordered to the East Indies, and I had so little ascendancy over my officers, that I was denied that the dear partner of my heart should accompany me; you, sir, may guess my struggles between love and duty, but being allowed little time to reflect, I was hurried on board, and though my heart was rent by the cruel disjunction, I bade her adieu. Twenty-one years and a half, have since expired; the thoughts of my beloved spouse cheered my drooping heart in the days of danger: for some years I received letters from her, but for twelve past, I was not favoured with a single line. I have been discharged, and thanks to my sovereign, I have been made by him independent. I am now, master, travelling to Derry, and if my dear wife is yet alive, I will spend the evening of my days in peaceful sequestration; but if she is dead, or, dire reflection! in the possession of another, I shall not long survive the heart-rending calamity."

Here I seized the honest veteran by the hand, while the big sympathetic sigh burst insensibly from my heart. I wished him success and bade him adieu. S.

September 19, 1809.

The narrator of the above story, has lately learned, that the worthy soldier has found his wife, with a daughter 21 years of age; that he has removed to his own country, there to enjoy the calm contentment he so justly deserved.

Bow your heads! ye lofty sons of dissipation, and let the example of an obscure, ignoble son of Mars, inspirit you with a noble emulation of his constancy, and know, assuredly, that you shall, like him, enjoy the happy fruition to which a life spent thus virtuously will entitle you.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REPLY TO SOME OBSERVATIONS IN THE VISIT TO ENGLAND, IN NO. XIV.

IT has been remarked that he who travels through Europe on foot, forms a very different estimate of countries from him who is whirled forward in a carriage. The one has opportunities to see mankind at leisure, and often stays sufficiently long at a place, to examine beyond the first appearances. The other, if even endued with the best talents for discrimination has time to take only a transient view, and has little leisure to judge between appearances and realities which are often separated by an immeasurable distance. In confirmation of the opinion, that it requires time and uninterrupted opportunity to form a just estimate of character, I shall adduce another maxim as to travelling, with which I have met, "that to be shut up for two days with a fellow traveller, in a stage coach, would give more insight into his character, than to meet the same person for two hours in every day for a year."

I would apply these remarks to some parts of "a visit to England," published in your last number. In general I am highly pleased with the observations of your interesting Correspondent; but I am apprehensive that he has adopted too favourable an opinion of the Welsh character.—I cannot lay claim to passing through that country on foot; but a few years ago, I spent about three months in North and South Wales, and traversed most of the principality, under cir-

cumstances pretty favourable for a close inspection into the manners of the inhabitants.

I am unable to join in the eulogy on them for their simplicity, as making allowances for many honourable exceptions from general character, which ought to be made in every liberal estimate of a country, they appeared to be rather unsocial to strangers, and ready to take advantage in dealing: committing perhaps not many atrocious frauds, but pursuing that line of petty warfare, which is designated by the names of trick and cunning.—Zealous, enthusiastic, and even fanatical in their notions of religion, they are not restrained in their conduct by the laws of a strict morality.—Their religion partook more of warm devotional feeling, carried to high extravagance, than of sedate, well regulated principle, pervading the whole tenour of their actions. Wales is peculiarly the scene of those wild enthusiasts, the Jumpers. I have heard many well authenticated instances of their extravagance, which were not always confined to their meeting-houses, for when thoroughly heated by their fanaticism, and jumping, which latter is in their phrase to get nearer to heaven, they have rushed out, and annoyed their more peaceable neighbours, by the violence of their misguided devotion, which in many cases bordered on frenzy. Yet I did not find that these zealots were distinguished for superior propriety of conduct in their general dealings.—They thus afforded another instance that extravagance of zeal is very frequently not accompanied with increased sanctity of life, or purity of manners.

With part of your Correspondent's observations, on the poor laws, as connected with the "Caution to Vagrants," at Shrewsbury, I participate in a similar feeling: but I think some of his remarks are not sufficiently calculated to discourage mendicity. It has been well remarked, "that on the day a man becomes a beggar, he loses half his worth." I would wish by all means to encourage a spirit of independence among the poor, nay, even almost approaching to pride, which would scorn to receive parochial or other relief, except on extraordinary emergencies. Hence I am not inclined to blame the enforcing of regulations against idle strollers and vagrants. They are too often pests to society.

The poor who are really suffering, and often feel complicated distresses, claim the compassion and attention of those in more comfortable circumstances: but I have often seen sturdy vagrants, who could make more by begging, than the sober and industrious could earn by labour. This is surely not as it should be, and requires the remedial correction of a vigilant police. Under certain circumstances indiscriminating charity, becomes a premium for idleness and profligacy.

I have received so much pleasure from the general tenour of your Correspondent's judicious remarks, that I am unwilling to conclude without apologizing to him for the liberty I have taken in expressing my dissent from him in some particulars, but my object is to promote free discussion, and an *eclaircissement*, on such points as may tend to produce a clear and impartial estimate of character.

A TRAVELLER.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Continued from p. 176, *No.* XIV.

HAVING submitted to your Grace the result of our inquiries into the funds and revenues of the Incorporated Society, we proceed to report to your Grace upon the conduct and management of the Institution.

The business of the society is transacted by committees, under the controul of a general board, which meets regularly on the first Wednesday in every month, and on other days when specially summoned by requisition, signed by seven members. There are four committees;

1st. The Committee of fifteen,

2d. The Committee of Accounts,

3d. The Law Committee,

4th. The Committee for examining into the qualifications of persons who offer themselves as candidates for the situations of masters, mistresses, and assistants in the schools.

Of these, the principal is the committee of fifteen, which is elected an-